



MEMBER NEWS

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

NOVEMBER 2019

NEXT MEMBERS MEETING: NOVEMBER 20, 2019 – 6:30PM DESSERT



President's Message

Do the fall colors seem more intense to you this year? They do to me, and several friends have remarked on this also. Fall color intensity is affected by a confluence of three different weather conditions: warm days, and cool nights with no frost, the right amount of precipitation with no drought, and more sun during the day. Fortunately for us, all of these things have happened this year to give us this beautiful fall

display. There are many areas in the state for viewing fall foliage. While New England is noted for its brilliant color season, the northwest has some pretty spectacular viewing also. Check out the Washington Park Arboretum in Seattle, the Hoh River Rain Forest on the coast, or the Bloedel Reserve on Bainbridge Island. The Key Peninsula has been showing great color too, so get out and enjoy it while it lasts.

We are fortunate to live in a beautiful environment, and taking care of it is one of the core values of both The Longbranch Improvement Club and The Longbranch Foundation. As organizations, we can make some larger contributions to that end. Our recent marina upgrades not only benefit boat owners, but anyone of who accesses Filucy Bay. Our upcoming pump out station project will help keep our bay, and the rest of the south sound, cleaner, and a better habitat for sea life and human life. Keeping the marine environment safe and clean for the recreation and enjoyment of the community, gives us a great deal of satisfaction.

As you are aware, we have applied for a Historic Preservation Grant from Pierce County, to evaluate the structure of our building, for the purpose of determining how much insulation (if any) we can install when we replace the roof of our building. Our hope is to use significant insulation that will save us money on our heating bills, keep the building cooler in the summer, and reduce our carbon footprint. As of this writing we are awaiting county approval on that grant.

What else do we do as an organization to be good stewards of our environment? We are working on some recycling initiatives, both at the clubhouse and the marina. We maintain our trails and trees so that the community can enjoy them and benefit from the oxygen that the trees produce. We do periodic road clean ups to keep plastics and all manner of refuse

(Continued)

off the land and prevent it from reaching the water. Can we do more? Yes, I think so. We end up using a lot of plastic in the course of our meetings and events. Do you think we should switch to compostable materials? They are more expensive in the short term but less harmful and expense in the long term. What if everyone brought their own plates and utensils to the potlucks? We could significantly reduce the amount of plastic we put in the landfill by just that one action.

I'd love your feedback pro or con on this topic. Please let me know what you think and any ideas you might have.

As we approach the holiday season please remember those around who are less fortunate than we are and be thankful for all that we have. Happy Thanksgiving.

Marsha Kremen

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Dockmaster Report

Hello from the dock! We hosted Fircrest Yacht Club, participated in the Farm Tour, and hosted South Sound Sailing Club's annual Halloween Cruise. They all dressed in costumes, and I told them next year I would dress up as Lynn. They got a kick out of that!

Things are pretty quiet at the dock heading into the winter months. Please remember as the rain and freezing temps start, to check on your boat.

The Facebook page is up and running. Lots of fun and informative information on the marina. Please like and share. I will be posting regularly on the page.

<https://www.facebook.com/Longbranch-Marina-451600468191713/>

Katie Harrison
Dockmaster

Food Bank

Once again, I want to thank all of you who so graciously gave items for the Food Bank at our last meeting. We still don't need any egg cartons, but I have the feeling that day is getting closer. I'll be sure to let you know as soon as we do need them.

As I said at the meeting; at this time of the year, we just don't receive the amount of food as we do in the warmer months. This makes your contributions even that much more important. Thank you again, and I'll see you at the meeting in November.

Pat Muchmore





As November arrives, many of us start thinking of Thanksgiving, Family and Friends, along with the things we are Thankful For. At the Foundation we are Thankful for the continued support the Community has given us to align with our Mission:

“To promote and enable educational opportunities for our youth, to maintain the area’s history, to improve the Filucy Bay environment and to generally improve the quality of life for adults and children of our community”.

Each November, the Foundation reaches out to the Community in our annual “Celebrate Campaign” to help us continue the good we are doing, and have the resources to expand our programs.

Kim Robinson and Jan Prichard, our Evergreen Elementary co-chairs, have put together an expanded budget for Evergreen next year. Additionally, Jan recently received a request from Evergreen to provide 24 pairs of rain boots for the children; vendors researched, boots ordered, boots arrived, boots delivered!

Don Berger is working to expand his Scholarship Committee, with the intent of also providing an additional vocational scholarship next year, to a graduating Peninsula High School Student.

With these programs, and others, like support for Food Backpack 4 Kids, we require your continued support, so please consider a donation when you receive your Celebrate Campaign Letter.

Thank You and Happy Thanksgiving !

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Events

What a fun evening it was for this year's Trunk or Treat event! The Evergreen PTA did a fantastic job of transforming the clubhouse into a game arcade, which was packed with excited kids all evening. Chuck and Louise Beam once again created a spooky haunted house with lots of scary creatures and ghouls. The North field was filled with "trunkers", and there was a steady flow of youngsters dressed to scare us, and make us laugh! Thanks to everyone who participated to make this a great evening and family event.

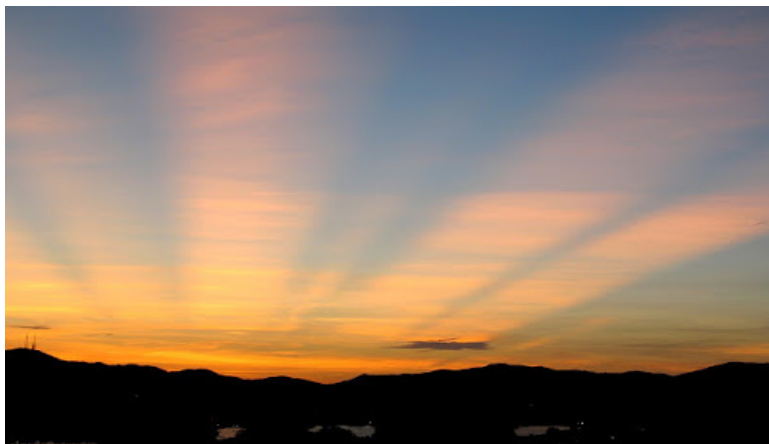
We get a little breather for the next few weeks. But soon December will be upon us, and another transformation of the clubhouse for the holiday season. As

Nancy has mentioned, our big event is Kids & Christmas, again in conjunction with Toys for Tots. This year we will be serving a turkey dinner, with donated turkeys prepared by Herald and Ann-Marie Ugles. We are asking for donations of birds that are typically available from local grocery stores for purchases of \$100 or more. Details will follow about how we will execute this.

Our next events meeting will be on November 13th at 11:00 a.m. at our home.

Until next month!

Bob & Barb
Events Co-Chairs



From the Sunshine Corner

Hello All,

This month I sent out 4 get well cards, all to members who recently had surgical procedures.

Cheril Allen,
The Sunshine Lady



"Every sunrise is a poem written on the earth with words of light, warmth, and love." – Debasish Mridha

Building and Grounds

The past month was a busy time for working on the LIC. A huge slate of volunteers helped with one of our most ambitious projects over the last few years – the trenching and installation of a new 1,000 gal LP tank, and trenching for water and power from the Clubhouse to the new sign – total trenching of over 700 feet. Helping the cause was John Schell, Jim Sobieck, Harry & Brynn Rydell, Bill & Lynn Lloyd, Bob Green, Steve Kuresman, Dustin & Garrett Morrow, Clark Van Bogart, Larry Silva, and Jan Brown, all who came with shovels and rakes to support the cause.

The county has inspected, and trenches have been covered. Water is now flowing to the new sign area, so it can be easily watered, and the next steps in the attachment of the new LP tank to building will be taking place in the next few days.

On a separate note, most members are aware that we have video security covering our grounds and building interiors. From time to time, members park their cars in our lot as they carpool together. We have had problems in the past with non-members parking and storing vehicles and RV's, which is a major risk and cost to the LIC. If you plan to park your car during the day at the LIC, and it will be unattended, please text me at 714-345-7745 with a note, including your car make and color, so I knows it's not abandoned. And please, no overnight parking, and as normal, parking is at your own risk.

Last but not least, Building and Grounds is starting its 2020 budget planning cycle, and any recommendations or concerns you have for improvements is greatly appreciated. Please send a note to me at bobperrypersonal@outlook.com

Bob Perry
Building and Grounds



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Membership

We have two new members, Larry and Cheryl Force to welcome. Say 'hi' when you see them.

October's meeting was a taco/burrito night with Ann-Marie as the star. Thanks to Ann-Marie and her kitchen help Carolyn Carr, Char Berger, Beth Porter and Kate Haley-Nieves (also a new member as of September). The helpers to setup were Laur Topbjerg, Robert Theisen, Don Berger, Ted Olinger and Rudy Nieves (new member in September with his other half!). Thanks to everyone – it was a great meeting and good food, as usual. And, way to meet folks Kate and Rudy – good to have you aboard!!

There are some events coming up in December that are fun, entertaining and a good way to earn hours:

For Kids & Christmas (Sunday, December 15th), the kitchen crew will be doing a turkey dinner for our local families. To facilitate this, Herald and Ann-Marie will be

doing the turkeys and they have a plan to do this, but they will need turkeys - frozen turkeys to be exact. At the November meeting, we will have more information on how they will collect the frozen turkeys. I think we will need about 10-15 turkeys, or more because I can't remember what Herald said. I will include this in the 'reminder note' prior to the November meeting. The kitchen experts have plans for some of the other fixings, too, and this will be shared by the November 20th dessert meeting. However, if you can get a free turkey (when the Thanksgiving ads start), and can keep it for Kids & Christmas, that would certainly help.

Right after Kids & Christmas is our LIC Annual Christmas Dinner. In November we will have volunteer sign-up sheets for both of these events and more (like the Deck the Hall).

See you in November!

Nancy Carr

Membership Chair



LIC General Meeting October 16, 2019



Marsha Kremen, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

New members introduced: Larry and Cheryl Force

BOARD REPORTS

Secretary: Kim Robinson asked that the minutes of the September meeting be accepted as written and submitted. MSP

Treasurer: Jim Hettinger stated that the total year-to-date net profit is \$32,000, which is over the net profit budget.

Membership: Nancy Carr suggested that people may want to pay their membership fee by using PayPal. There isn't any benefit to using PayPal, other than not having to write a check. When Marsha asked how many members would like to use this form of payment, the overwhelming majority wanted to keep things the way they are. There has been conversation regarding adding a 3% credit card fee. This is because the LIC has been charged \$3,384 in credit card fees year-to-date, which is a lot of money for a non-profit organization. The board has not made any decisions yet.

Events: In Bob Green's absence, Marsha gave updates on events. There was nothing but positive comments regarding the Fiber Arts event. Nancy Carr, Carolyn Wiley, Cheril Allen and Kelly Hettinger, among many others, contributed to our success. There is a box at the front door to drop your candy donations for Trunk or Treat. Setup for the haunted house will start on Wednesday, October 23rd. If anyone is interested in helping with the

setup, Louise Beam will be here at 10:00 a.m. Herald Ugles stated that the LIC stepped up their game last year at the Kids and Christmas event, serving baked chicken and macaroni and cheese, and received great feedback. This year, the plan is to serve turkey, potatoes, gravy, and vegetables. In November, most grocery stores give a free turkey to those who spend \$100 or more. Herald is asking members for 10 frozen turkeys, and there will be an allocated place to store them. A request for potato and vegetable donations will also be made to the grocery stores. The turkeys will be pre-cooked, but if anyone wants to cook their own turkey, they can. The cooked turkeys just need to be taken to the LIC 3 hours before the event. The goal for the day of the event is to only have to serve the food.

Building & Grounds: Bob Perry was not in attendance, but wanted everyone to know there will be a Building and Grounds meeting on October 22nd at 10:00 a.m. at the LIC building. Any member who is interested in helping that committee is invited to join.

Marina: Brett Allen gave an overview on the pump-out station. A committee was formed to look into installing a pump-out station at the marina. Pierce County and Derek Young's office had pushed the Longbranch Marina to allow for a pump-out station because of the large need for Filucy Bay and southern Puget Sound. They came to us and asked us to look into it. There are funds available for both

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studying the installation of the facility, as well as with the Clean Vessel act funding for the installation. Since forming the committee, we have had a couple of meetings with the county and the committee. It was determined that there were 2 sets of funds available. There is the Clean Vessel Act funding, which will fund all the construction, if we get the permits. They need a 25% matching grant in order to move forward. This usually comes from whoever is putting in the pump-out station, or other funding mechanisms. They also came with the ability to request a grant from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation for that matching grant. We applied for the grant and got approval for it. We just signed the contract for it. This will allow us to go through all the permitting necessary. Not one dollar will come from LIC. As for next steps, Brett will be meeting tomorrow with the county and with all who are involved in the permitting process. Derek Young's office has arranged for us to meet with all the people that we will need, in order to push this quickly through Shoreline permitting. Once we submit for permits and have a design that fits, we can then move on with construction. We could see this happening as soon as summer next year. We haven't figured out the full design yet, but we will be starting that next month. If there is any input as to what people would like to see for a pump-out station at the marina, Brett is open to any suggestions you may have. He will

update as things move along, but the biggest thing was getting the grant. Marsha stated that Brett and Sheryl Low deserve a lot of thanks for pulling this all together. Robert stated that there is winter moorage available at the marina. Please move your kayaks if you are done for the season, or you will continue to be billed.

Trustee at Large: Clark Van Bogart had nothing to report.

Newsletter: Tanya Perry was not present, but Marsha asked that any articles you want in the newsletter be sent to Tanya by the 25th of the month.

Historian: Lynn Larson was not present.

Vice President: David Zeigler had nothing to report.

President: Marsha Kremen shared an update from the county. The county council will be deciding next Tuesday on the historic preservation grant for the LIC building roof survey. Marsha will be attending that meeting and hopefully we will receive funding for the next phase.

Pat Muchmore shared a couple of comments regarding road clean-up. She wasn't sure who was responsible for cleaning up the road from 76th to the marina, but was impressed by how clean it was. A member stated that the gentleman who cleaned that area had moved, but someone else may have taken it over. If not, we need to find other people to take on that area, Pat will need at least 4 more people because it is a mile-long stretch of road. We have

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LIC General Meeting October 16, 2019

already had our road clean-ups this year. We have had an issue with people not letting Pat know when they can't make the clean-up date. It has been decided that Nancy Carr will make reminder phone calls to volunteers in the future. Pat also thanked the membership for their contributions to the food bank. As winter comes, the grocery stores donations happen less and less. She really appreciates the generosity and wants everyone to know how grateful the families are.

The Longbranch Foundation: Randy Carr stated that next month, the Foundation will celebrate its annual fundraiser. Members will be receiving a letter signed by Barb Floyd, TLF President, asking for your consideration of donations. There are some exciting things happening at the Foundation right now. Kim Robinson and Jan Prichard have put together a budget for Evergreen Elementary School, which will increase the amount of money that has been given to them in the past. Don Berger and his scholarship committee are hoping to expand our scholarship program next year to graduating seniors at Peninsula High School, and also to include a vocational scholarship. Randy hopes you will consider opening your heart and your wallet to make a contribution that will help support these programs. Randy received an email from Brittany Wickens, the personnel manager at Peninsula Light. She is asking TLF to put together a video for their employees at a meeting on

December 13th. We feel honored by this request. Peninsula Light has been a guest speaker here at the LIC, and they were a sponsor for our auction. They have chosen TLF, and a few other community organizations in Gig Harbor, to send a video for their employees, and to use this video for PR work in the community going forward.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

- Trunk or Treat – Friday, October 25th
- Next Membership Meeting – Wednesday, November 20th
- Lighted Boat Parade and Chili Feed – Saturday, December 7th

The raffle drawing, which benefits the Longbranch Foundation, took place. The winners were Herald Ugles and Candice Hardt for the \$1 drawing. Carolyn Wiley won for the \$5 drawing. Marsha gave a big thank you to the kitchen help for the enchiladas and taco bar.

Meeting adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:
Kim Robinson
Secretary



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